

P20854.A08



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi SHIKU et al.

Group Art Unit : 1644 ✓

Appln. No : 09/787,916

Examiner : Ewoldt

I.A. Filed : September 30, 1999

For : METHOD FOR INDUCING CELLULAR IMMUNITY AND CELLS
HAVING INDUCED CELLULAR IMMUNITY

PAPER REGARDING COMMUNICATION MAILED APRIL 9, 2004

Commissioner of Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants express appreciation for the courtesies of Supervisory Patent Examiner Christina Chan during an April 15, 2004 telephone conversation wherein the Communication mailed April 15, 2004 was discussed.

Applicants noted that the communication was in error in stating that the Amendment filed January 13, 2004 was not responsive because it was directed to constructively non-elected claims. In this regard, it was noted that at least independent claim 13 should be considered to include originally presented subject matter. In response, the Supervisory Patent Examiner indicated that the case had been discussed with the Examiner, and the non-responsive communication will be vacated, and an Office Action mailed at least treating claim 13 on the merits.

Moreover, Applicants noted that the claims had been amended in view of the indefiniteness rejection, and therefore it would be appropriate to examine each of the pending claims in view of their clarification in accordance with the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, rejection.

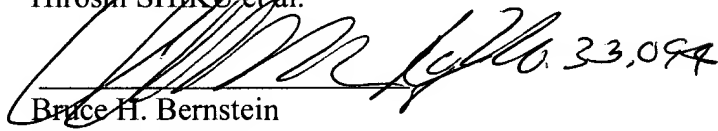
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Applicants therefore await confirmation of the vacating of the Communication, and the mailing of a communication treating Applicants' January 13, 2004 Amendment on the merits.

If there are any questions, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number listed below.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee necessary for consideration of this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Respectfully submitted,
Hiroshi SHIKI et al.


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April 15, 2004
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